

of Palac-Tyrus, whose ruins now compose the basis of the isthmus, the view from the top of this monument must have been grand in the extreme. Even now it tempts one to linger many an hour while the spirit drinks in the scene, upon which, however, I can not at this time, expatiate. Suffice, that, if this is the tomb of the Tyrian monarch, as I devoutly believe, it would be difficult to find a location so well adapted to it upon all this splendid mass of hills east of Tyre.

To describe the monument itself is the chief purpose of this article, and this I do the more minutely, because no other author has done it justice. Bro. the Rev. H. B. Tristram in his recent admirable work upon the Holy Land deserves to be studied both in his photograph view and letter-press upon this subject, but it was not within the scope of his plan to enter into particulars. . . . The builders first laid down a substructure of grout or concrete made of rounded pebbles in fine white lime about six inches deep. Upon this they imposed the first stratum of stones whose dimensions I cannot give, as the whole layer, save a portion of one stone, is hidden under the earth; that one, however, is 4ft. long by 2ft. 10in. high, and extends some 8in. beyond the first stones of the tomb proper.

The first layer of stones is composed of four blocks. For want of drawings I find it difficult to describe it. Say a stone, N. and S. for the eastward of the monument; another in the same situation at the west end; and two abutting each other in the centre, to fill up the

space between. The whole covers an area of 19ft. from east to west, and 8ft. 6in. from north to south. The height of this layer is four feet. The second layer is composed of five blocks, covering the same surface, and is 2 ft. 10in. in height. Great pains were used in breaking the joints in which some artistic skill is manifest. The third layer (above ground) forms a sort of cornice to the structure by jutting out on every side about 8in. It is composed of four large stones, nearly symmetrical with each other, each 9ft. 8in. in length (from N. to S), about 4ft. wide, and 3ft. 3in. high; the area covered by this tier is 15ft. 1in. by 9ft. 8in. These stones are very large, and from their relation to those below seem even larger than they are. Likewise, they give an appearance of height to the monument which adds to the grandeur of the *tout ensemble*.

The fourth layer is the sarcophagus, consisting of a single stone about 13ft. by 7., and nearly 6 feet high. I am not sufficiently conversant with architectural science to explain it, but the artist who designed this vast stone coffin has contrived to give an air of vastness to it that is in admirable keeping with his subject. He has chiselled a rude bevel upon it and to some extent shaped it, but the general idea it conveys is that of rude grandeur. The coffin, or cavity cut exactly in the top of this stone, is about six ft. 6in. long, 2ft. 2in. deep, and 1ft. 8in. wide. Through the hole knocked out of the coffin, at its north-east corner I crept with some difficulty, and with solemn emotions superadded to considerable physical inconvenience, lay at length on the floor of Hiram's last receptacle, long since rifled of its contents.

The fifth layer is the lid of the sarcophagus, about 2ft. 6in. thick, and fitting by a shoulder into the cavity below. My associate, Mr. Thomson, climbed upon the top of this, and describes it as much grooved by the weather, and presenting no appearance of inscription or chiselling of any kind. A large piece of it was broken off at the north-